

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 22, 2006. Claims 1 to 6 and 8 to 11 are pending in the application, with Claim 7 having been cancelled and Claim 11 having been newly added. Claim 1 has been amended, and Claims 1 and 11 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for allegedly claiming non-statutory subject matter. In particular, it was alleged that these claims lack a final result of a tangible outcome.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "detecting a relative spatial position of the object with respect to the interface section by calculating...". Such detection of a relative spatial position is seen to correspond with a final result of a tangible outcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 6 and 8 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 7,064,819 (Detweiler). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.


In this regard, Claim 7 was omitted from the list of rejected claims. As such, the subject matter of Claim 7 is seen to be allowable. Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to include the substance of Claim 7, which has consequently been cancelled. In addition, newly-added Claim 11 recites "a detection section for detecting an electromagnetic wave of a frequency bandwidth within a range from 30 GHz to 30 THz". Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 11, together with their dependent claims, are seen to be in condition for allowance.

The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejections, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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